

BELTHORN VILLAGE COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th July 2022
at 6.00 pm in The Dog Inn, Belthorn

Members Present:

Marianne Davies Yvonne Brown Tina Walker Lesley Dunn
Collette Riding Judith Hamilton Catherine McGurk and Graham Slater

Also Present: Councillor Susan Hayes

	Action
1. 100 PLUS CLUB – JULY 2022 DRAW The June draw was overseen by Barman Liam Winner of the 1 st prize of £59.50 – ticket number 53, N Murphy Winner of the 2 nd prize of £34.00 – ticket number 156, S Nolan Winner of the 3 rd prize of £25.50 – ticket number 111, J Slack Winner of the 4 th prize of £17.00 – ticket number 143, Mrs Walker	
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Mel Egan sent an apology for absence.	
3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.	
4. MINUTES OF THE 7th JUNE 2022 MEETING FOR APPROVAL The minutes of the meetings were agreed as a correct record.	
5. MATTERS ARISING <u>Hyndburn Garage Site</u> – Tina is still awaiting a response from the Ombudsman notifying her that a case handler had been appointed to her level 3 investigation regarding planning permission granted for a double garage, contrary to the Council's garage site rules. Taking into account the on-going school parking situation, Tina suggested she contact the officer in charge of Hyndburn's garage site to discuss the possibility of re-surfacing the spare land on the garage site for school parking. Access and general usage was considered together with potential ownership and costs. Agreed, we'd look at the site and consider the suggestion. <u>LCC Funding Update</u> - Craig had reported that customer Ian from Parkinson Signs had agreed to make a notice board for outside the pub but a quote for the work was still awaited. <u>Lay-bys at the top of Belthorn Road</u> – The suggestion of closing off the lay-byes to help prevent unsocial behaviour and litter dumping was discussed at	

the meeting of Lancashire's Safety Partnership. The Committee was asked to let the Partnership have proof of problems, ie photos, dates, times etc. It was therefore agreed that since incidents occurred late at night when no-one was around, it would be practically impossible to gather the information.	
6. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED No correspondence had been received.	
7. TREASURER'S REPORT Judith advised that nothing had changed since her report to last month's meeting which she had earlier circulated by e-mail to the committee.	
8. SUMMER SOCIAL EVENTS Yvonne reiterated her report to last month's meeting that the Jubilee celebrations at the Dog Inn went very well and, considering the competition from all events taking place over the four-day period, were well attended. August Dog Show and Family Fun Day – would be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 29 th August, at the Dog Inn and judged by Hyndburn Councillor Susan Hayes. Light refreshments would be available. An events meeting at the Dog Inn was to be arranged, where as usual, everyone was welcome to attend.	
9. BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN'S LOCAL PLAN - PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL UNITS ON GREEN BELT UPDATE Lesley updated the meeting on progress and fundraising needed to raise money for the second payment to the CPRE consultant who has been commissioned to help fight our cause. Marianne advised of an e-mail received and circulated to the committee from County Councillor Peter Britcliffe, newly elected Chair of LCC Conservative party, and Deputy Chair of Hyndburn's Conservatives, advising us that he had urged Hyndburn Council, at a recent meeting, to object to Blackburn with Darwen's proposal to release land from our Green Belt.	
10. JENNIE COOK'S ABUSIVE DOG INN CUSTOMER Marianne had circulated Jennie's e-mailed complaint about an incident involving a villager verbally abusing her in a loud and aggressive manner because he had been blocked from Facebook some months ago for his abusive comments regarding a village issue. She was volunteering in the coffee shop at the time and was very upset by his language and attitude. Her situation was discussed and everyone agreed that Jennie has a very difficult role in administering the village web pages especially dealing with some people who post negative, upsetting and unsuitable comments. Banning him from the pub was a harsh move but would be considered if any such incidents happen again whilst Jennie was working in the pub. Yvonne agreed to speak to pub manager Nik for her views after Jennie had notified her of the incident.	

<p>11. SCHOOL PARKING – BUS PROBLEMS</p> <p>Discussion took place once again about the issue of some parents parking without consideration for others, especially at school leaving times making it very difficult for bus drivers to pass the school traffic. This had resulted in some instances of the bus driver by-passing the village and continuing to drive down the Grane road. This has obviously caused inconvenience to passengers leaving the bus at The Pack walking along the overgrown footpath through fields carrying shopping etc, plus missing potential passengers waiting in the village for the bus.</p> <p>Agreed: Marianne to contact the bus company to discuss the situation, and</p> <p>Yvonne to ask the school to once again urge parents to continue driving up the village out to the Grane road after dropping off children, rather than turning round at Tower View and driving back down past the school out of the village as some parents do. This would help alleviate the traffic congestion.</p>	<p>Marianne</p> <p>Yvonne</p>
<p>12. MEMORIAL GARDEN – WILD FLOWER GARDEN SUGGESTION</p> <p>Since the Memorial Garden is currently in a poor condition it had been suggested that a group be formed to turn it into a wild flower garden. After discussion it was agreed that whilst the idea of a wild-flower garden is good, it was felt that wild flowers, some consider them weeds, would be unsuitable for a memorial garden. Instead it was suggested that the Village Committee take over responsibility for the garden, a small group of green-fingered volunteers be formed to plant suitable flowers, shrubs and bulbs. Some money could be available from Village Committee funds to start the work together with cuttings and unwanted plants from villagers to save on costs.</p> <p>Agreed: Marianne to contact Hyndburn Council to discuss the idea initially before a Garden Group is started to be formed.</p>	<p>Marianne</p>
<p>13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Overgrown Hedges - Yvonne explained the problem of overgrown hedges along Belthorn Road at the top of the village. After discussion she agreed to contact Colin and Becky Fielding, farmers, at the bottom of the village for their help in cutting the hedges.</p> <p>Footpath between Kendal Row and Belthorn – The on-going problem of the overgrown footpath from the village to The Pack was considered and villager Des was approached to trim the grass for a couple of pints of beer from Committee funds – to which he agreed.</p>	
<p>14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be held at 6.00 pm on Tuesday 2nd August in the Dog Inn. An AGM date was discussed. It would be held in early September with date and time confirmed with the Committee Chair ASAP.</p>	